

REMARKS

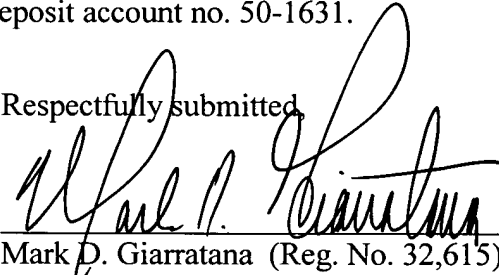
Claims 1-6 were pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicant has cancelled claims 2, 4 and 6, amended claims 1, 3, and 5, and added claims 7-31. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 5, and 7-31 are currently pending in this application. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been introduced by these amendments, as support therefor is found throughout the specification and drawings. Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner wishes to discuss any of the issues herein, or otherwise if it would facilitate the examination of this application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number below.

No additional fee is believed to be required in connection with this paper; however, if an additional fee is required, or otherwise if necessary to cover any deficiency in fees already paid, authorization is hereby given to charge our deposit account no. 50-1631.

Date : 27 October 2003

Respectfully submitted,


Mark D. Giarratana (Reg. No. 32,615)

PTO Correspondence Address:

McCarter & English, LLP
CityPlace I
185 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06103
(Tel) 860-275-6719

HARTFORD: 433965.01